

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
NSC-05 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 OES-07
ERDA-05 /070 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA:HHGAFFNEY
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:JHHAWES
JCS/J-5:JCATHCART
EUR/RPM:EDNEWSOM
DOD/ISA:DCLINARD
PM/ISP:LFINCH
DOD/ISA:JGOLDSTEIN
-----102110Z 122274 /70

O R 101945Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USLOOACLANT
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106138

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EPG, NATO

SUBJECT:DRAFT PERMREP REPORT ON TNF IMPROVEMENTS

REFS: (A) STATE 96673 (DTG 282359Z APR 77)
(B) USNATO 2716 (DTG 050921Z MAY 77)

1. PURSUANT TO GUIDANCE REFTEL (A), YOU SHOULD MAKE EVERY
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EFFORT TO CONSIDERABLY SHORTEN IS DRAFT. WE WOULD PREFER
THAT IT MERELY BE A COMPILATION OF SACEUR AND MC CONCLU-
SIONS, NOTED AND FORWARDED. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION MIGHT
BE SINGLED OUT, RATHER THAN IMPOSING ENDORSEMENTS ON MINI-
STERS. YOU SHOULD ESPECIALLY AVOID ANY IMPLICATION THAT
PERMREPS ARE ADDING A POLITICAL GLOSS TO MILITARY CONCLU-
SIONS.

2. YOUR COMMENTS IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL (B) ARE APPROPRIATE, AND YOU SHOULD SEEK TO OBTAIN CHANGES INDICATED THERE.

3. WITH REGARD TO DRAFT PERMREP REPORT ITSELF, WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC COMMENTS:

A. REPORT, PARA 2. WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE REFERENCE TO "SACEUR'S ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF MODERN WEAPONS ON STOCKPILE REQUIREMENTS." IT IS NOT, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, AN NPG STUDY. PLEASE CLARIFY.

B. REPORT, PARAS 4 AND 5. WE SUGGEST THESE BE ELIMINATED OR DRASTICALLY SHORTENED. PARA 4 REPRESENTS TOO NARROW AN APPLICATION OF A PARTICULAR THESIS, AND MIXES EMPLOYMENT PLANNING AND IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING. REFERENCE IN PARA 5 TO A "LACK OF A COMMONLY AGREED APPROACH" WAS TO AIR DEFENSE, NOT OVERALL DEFENSE POSTURE. WHOLE PARA SEEMS TO POINT TO A LECTURE ON RESPONSIBILITIES, AND WE RECOMMEND IT BE DROPPED.

C. REPORT, PARA 6. YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT LINKAGES ARE APPROPRIATE. PAPER ON POLITICAL CONTROL AND US INPUT TO PHASE III DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE SUFFICIENT STATUS TO WARRANT THEIR CITATION HERE. SUGGEST THAT IF ALTERNATIVE WORDS NEEDED YOU DRAW ON US TNF IMPROVEMENTS PAPER.

D. ANNEX A, PARA 2. SUGGEST MC AND SACEUR CONCLUSIONS BE INSERTED HERE IN FULL. ARGUMENTS SHOULD NOT BE LABELED AS CONFIDENTIAL

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"PERSUASIVE;" THAT WOULD BE AN ENDORSEMENT WHICH WE ARE NOT YET READY TO MAKE.

E. ANNEX A, PARAS 4 AND 5. WE SUGGEST DELETION, IN ORDER TO LET SACEUR'S STUDY STAND ALONE. WHILE WE DON'T DISAGREE WITH THE WORDS, WE THINK IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR PERMREPS TO MAKE SEPARATE COMMENT ALONG THESE LINES.

F. ANNEX A, PARA 6. PARA SHOULD BE TONED DOWN, E.G., BY DELETION OF FIRST SENTENCE, DELETION OF THE WORD "OUR," AND SUBSTITUTION OF THE WORDS "MORE IMPORTANT" FOR "URGENT" IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARA.

G. ANNEX A, PARA 7. COMMENT ON HIPAR SHOULD BE CHANGED TO READ "UPGRADING OF THE HIPAR." WE SUGGEST LAST SENTENCE BE ELIMINATED OR TONED DOWN; SACEUR'S RELEVANT CONCLUSIONS COULD STAND ALONE HERE. THIS KIND OF CONCLUSION SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR MINISTERS, AND NOT BE TAKEN AT PERMREP LEVEL.

H. ANNEX A, PARA 8. WE SUGGEST THAT PERMREPS "NOTE" NMA VIEWS. QUALIFIER "SURFACE-TO AIR" SHOULD BE INSERTED

BETWEEN "EXISTING" AND "ALLIANCE" IN FIRST SENTENCE IF PARA OTHERWISE IS RETAINED.

I. ANNEX A, PARA 9. REPETITIVE, AND CAN BE DROPPED.

J. ANNEX A, PARA 10. SUGGEST ELIMINATE PARA. DECISIONS ON IMPROVEMENTS ARE UP TO COUNTRIES. IF LANGUAGE NEEDED, SEE US POSITION IN CNAD ON MEDIUM SAM REPLACEMENT.

K. ANNEX A, RECOMMENDATIONS. YOUR SUGGESTION ON SECOND RECOMMENDATION IS APPROPRIATE. SUGGEST ELIMINATION OF THIRD RECOMMENDATION. WHILE REPORT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO SELECTED GROUPS INVOLVED IN AIR DEFENSE, SUBJECT TO CONFIDENTIAL

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ATOMAL LIMITATIONS, THIS NEED NOT BE DECIDED BY MINISTERS.

4. COMMENTS ON ANNEX B ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. PARA 1. IN FIRST SENTENCE, REQUEST THAT "AND NUMBER" BE DELETED SINCE STUDY MADE NO DEFINITIVE DETERMINATION OF OVERALL NUMBERS. SUGGEST ELIMINATION OF ALL AFTER FIRST SENTENCE. LANGUAGE IS GRATUITOUS AND UNNECESSARY.

B. PARA 2. SUGGEST YOU CHANGE 4TH SENTENCE TO READ, "WE NOTE THAT THE DETAILED DETERMINATION OF THE NUMBER OF DUAL-CAPABLE AIRCRAFT COMMITTED TO THE VARIOUS TASKS IS A SACEUR OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND MAY BE INFLUENCED BY SITUATION-DEPENDENT FACTORS." REST OF THE PARA IS REPETITIVE AND WE SUGGEST IT BE SHORTENED.

C. PARA 3. PARA CAN BE RETAINED, BUT WE SUGGEST THAT INTRODUCTORY PHRASES, "WE SHARE THE VIEW" AND "WE FULLY SUPPORT" BE CHANGED TO SOMETHING LIKE "WE WISH TO CALL PARTICULAR ATTENTION OF MINISTERS TO." THIS FORMULATION COULD BE USED ELSEWHERE IN REPORT AS WELL.

D. PARA 4. SUGGEST OMISSION, SINCE WE WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE ANY ENDORSEMENT OF STUDY TO MINISTERS. IF SOMETHING LIKE THE PARA IS KEPT, REQUEST THAT THE PHRASE "AND NUMBER" IN FIRST SENTENCE BE ELIMINATED, SINCE STUDY MADE NO DEFINITIVE DETERMINATION OF OVERALL NUMBERS.

E. PARA 6. SUGGEST DELETION OF FOURTH AND FIFTH RECOMMENDATIONS. FOURTH IS NOT AT ISSUE AND NEED NOT BE SINGLED OUT HERE. ON FIFTH, WE CONSIDER IT INAPPROPRIATE

TO GIVE REPORT WIDER CIRCULATION SINCE IT WAS SPECIFICALLY
PREPARED TO SUPPORT MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS IN NPG.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, REPORTS, INSTRUCTIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, NUCLEAR DELIVERY VEHICLES, STUDIES, AMENDMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE106138
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HHGAFFNEY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770164-1139
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770573/aaaaclgx.tel
Line Count: 173
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8c014597-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 96673
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2579653
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRAFT PERMREP REPORT ON TNF IMPROVEMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, US, NATO, NPG
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c014597-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009